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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Iraq

DATE DISTR. 28 December 1948

SUBJECT Special Meeting of Regent's Cabinet to Consider Palestine Developments

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1. On 14 December, Abd-al-Ilah, Regent of Iraq, presided over a special meeting of his cabinet, senior Iraqi politicians, the Chief of General Staff and his deputy, to consider Palestine developments.

The following opinions were expressed:

- a. Prime Minister, Muzahim Pachachi, stated that Iraq must support the Arab League, whether it was to be dominated by Egypt or Transjordan.
  - b. The Deputy Chief of General Staff recalled the Egyptian refusal of military cooperation and advocated the immediate withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Palestine.
  - c. Pachachi agreed, and said that the Egyptians should be warned accordingly.
  - d. Nuri Said intervened and stated that Iraq must first consider how to heal the breach between Egypt and Transjordan before threatening to withdraw its troops.
  - e. President of the Istiqlal (Independence) Party, Muhammad Kubba, argued that, in any case, Iraq must support the Arab League.
2. Pachachi was asked to go to Amman to urge King Abdullah to take no immediate action, in order to preserve Arab unity. The Prime Minister refused and Nuri Said was selected to go.
3. Nuri Said left the same day and returned 16 December, apparently having failed to accomplish his mission.
4. Jamil Madfai, who had accompanied Nuri Said to Amman, proceeded on to Damascus on 17 December to persuade the Syrians to adopt a less hostile attitude toward Abdullah.
5. Egyptian Liaison Officers have meanwhile been withdrawn from Amman.

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